CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim Amendment Summary

Claims pending

- Before this Amendment: Claims 1-54.
- After this Amendment: Claims 1-56

Non-Elected, Canceled, or Withdrawn claims: none

Amended claims: 1, 3, 9, 13, 22, 25, 30, 34, 35, 36, 39, 43, 47, and 50

New claims: 55 and 56

Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A processor-readable medium having processor-executable instructions that, when executed by a processor, performs a method comprising:

receiving a unicast acquisition media-stream transmission, which corresponds to a target multicast media-stream transmission, the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission further comprising multimedia content that is analogous to and is synchronized with a content of the target multicast media-stream transmission;

decoding the content of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission;

switching reception from the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission to the target multicast media-stream transmission.

2. (Original) A medium as recited in claim **1**, wherein the method further comprises:

receiving an indication to change to a new channel, the new channel being the target multicast media-stream transmission;

requesting the target multicast media-stream transmission, wherein the transmission is representative of the new channel.

3. **(Currently Amended)** A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the method further comprises:

receiving an indication to change to a new channel, the new channel being represented by the target multicast media-stream transmission and the unicast acquisition media-stream;

requesting the unicast acquisition media-stream which corresponds to the target multicast media-stream transmission[[;]].

4. **(Original)** A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the method further comprises presenting the decoded content of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission.

5. **(Original)** A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the method further comprises decoding and presenting the decoded content of the target multicast media-stream transmission after the switching.

6. **(Original)** A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the method further comprises requesting cessation of transmission of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission.

7. **(Original)** A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein frame properties of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission match those of the target multicast media-stream transmission.

8. **(Original)** A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein frame properties of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission do not match those of the target multicast media-stream transmission.

9. **(Currently Amended)** A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein [[the]]frames of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission are encoded using a lower bit-rate than that used by the target multicast media-stream transmission.

10. (Original) A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the switching occurs before the reception of a random-access point (RAP) in the target multicast media-stream transmission.

11. (Original) A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the switching occurs during or close to the reception of a random-access point (RAP) in the target multicast media-stream transmission.

12. (Original) A computing device comprising:

a media-stream presentation device;

a medium as recited in claim 1.

13. (Currently Amended) A processor-readable medium having processor-executable instructions that, when executed by a processor, performs a method comprising:

receiving a low bit-rate unicast acquisition media-stream transmission, which corresponds both in time and in content to a target normal bit-rate multicast media-stream transmission;

decoding the content of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission;

receiving a normal ~~bit-rat~~ bit-rate unicast intermediate media-stream transmission, which corresponds to a target multicast media-stream transmission;

switching reception from the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission to the unicast intermediate media-stream transmission;

decoding the content of the unicast intermediate media-stream transmission;

switching reception from the unicast intermediate media-stream transmission to the target multicast media-stream transmission.

14. (Original) A medium as recited in claim 13, wherein the method further comprises:

receiving an indication to change to a new channel, the new channel being the target multicast media-stream transmission;

requesting the target multicast media-stream transmission, wherein the transmission is representative of the new channel.

15. (Original) A medium as recited in claim 13, wherein the method further comprises presenting the decoded content of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission.

16. (Original) A medium as recited in claim 13, wherein the method further comprises presenting the decoded content of the intermediate media-stream transmission.

17. (Original) A medium as recited in claim 13, wherein the method further comprises presenting the decoded content of the intermediate media-stream transmission after the switching from the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission.

18. (Original) A medium as recited in claim 13, wherein the method further comprises decoding and presenting the content of the target multicast media-stream transmission after the switching from the intermediate media-stream transmission.

19. (Original) A medium as recited in claim 13, wherein the method further comprises requesting cessation of transmission of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission.

20. (Original) A medium as recited in claim 13, wherein frame properties of the intermediate media-stream transmission match those of the target multicast media-stream transmission.

21. (Original) A medium as recited in claim 13, wherein frame properties of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission do not match those of the target multicast media-stream transmission.

22. (Currently Amended) A medium as recited in claim 13, wherein [[the]]frames of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission are encoded using a lower bit-rate than that used by the intermediate media-stream transmission.

23. (Original) A medium as recited in claim 13, wherein the frames of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission are encoded using a lower bit-rate than that used by the target multicast media-stream transmission.

24. (Original) A computing device comprising:

a media-stream presentation device;

a medium as recited in claim 13.

25. (Currently Amended) A processor-readable medium having processor-executable instructions that, when executed by a processor, performs a method comprising:

requesting a target multicast media-stream transmission;

receiving a unicast acquisition media-stream transmission, where the content of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission corresponds both in subject matter and in time to that of the target multicast media-stream transmission;

decoding and presenting the content of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission;

switching reception from the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission to the target multicast media-stream transmission.

26. (Original) A medium as recited in claim 25, wherein the method further comprises decoding and presenting the content of the target multicast media-stream transmission after the switching.

27. (Original) A medium as recited in claim 25, wherein the method further comprises requesting cessation of transmission of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission.

28. (Original) A medium as recited in claim 25, wherein frame properties of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission match those of the target multicast media-stream transmission.

29. (Original) A medium as recited in claim 25, wherein frame properties of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission do not match those of the target multicast media-stream transmission.

30. (Currently Amended) A medium as recited in claim 25, wherein [[the]]frames of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission are encoded using a lower bit-rate than that used by the target multicast media-stream transmission.

31. (Original) A medium as recited in claim 25, wherein the switching occurs before the reception of a random-access point (RAP) in the target multicast media-stream transmission.

32. (Original) A medium as recited in claim 25, wherein the switching occurs during or close to the reception of a random-access point (RAP) in the target multicast media-stream transmission.

33. (Original) A computing device comprising:

a media-stream presentation device;

a medium as recited in claim 25.

34. (Currently Amended) A method facilitating fast channel-change, the method comprising:

requesting a target multicast media-stream transmission;

receiving a unicast acquisition media-stream transmission, where the content of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission corresponds to and synchronizes with that of the target multicast media-stream transmission;

decoding and presenting the content of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission;

switching reception from the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission to the target multicast media-stream transmission.

35. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 34, further comprising decoding and presenting the decoded content of the target multicast media-stream transmission after the switching.

36. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 34, further comprising requesting cessation of transmission of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission.

37. **(Original)** A method as recited in claim 34, wherein frame properties of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission match those of the target multicast media-stream transmission.

38. **(Original)** A method as recited in claim 34, wherein frame properties of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission do not match those of the target multicast media-stream transmission.

39. **(Currently Amended)** A method as recited in claim 34, wherein [[the]]frames of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission are encoded using a lower bit-rate than that used by the target multicast media-stream transmission.

40. **(Original)** A method as recited in claim 34, wherein the switching occurs before the reception of a random-access point (RAP) in the target multicast media-stream transmission.

41. **(Original)** A method as recited in claim 34, wherein the switching occurs during or close to the reception of a random-access point (RAP) in the target multicast media-stream transmission.

42. **(Original)** A computer comprising one or more processor-readable media having processor-executable instructions that, when executed by the computer, perform the method as recited in claim 34.

43. (Currently Amended) A multimedia system comprising:

~~a receiver configured to receive both a unicast acquisition media-stream transmission and a target multicast media-stream transmission;~~

a receiver configured to simultaneously receive both a target multicast media-stream transmission and a unicast acquisition media-stream transmission, wherein the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission corresponds to a current transmission point of the target multicast media-stream transmission

a decoding unit configured to decode both a unicast acquisition media-stream transmission and a target multicast media-stream transmission;

a splicing unit configured to splice from the reception of the unicast acquisition media-stream to the reception of the target multicast media-stream transmission

44. (Original) A system as recited in claim 43 further comprising a channel-change unit configured to receive an indication to change to a new channel and to request the target multicast media-stream transmission; wherein the transmission is representative of the new channel.

45. (Original) A system as recited in claim 43, wherein frame properties of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission match those of the target multicast media-stream transmission.

46. (Original) A system as recited in claim 43, wherein frame properties of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission do not match those of the target multicast media-stream transmission.

47. (Currently Amended) A system as recited in claim 43, wherein [[the]]frames of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission are encoded using a lower bit-rate than that used by the target multicast media-stream transmission.

48. (Original) A system as recited in claim 43, wherein the splicing unit is further configured to perform its splice before the reception of a random-access point (RAP) in the target multicast media-stream transmission.

49. (Original) A system as recited in claim 43, wherein the splicing unit is further configured to perform its splice during or close to the reception of a random-access point (RAP) in the target multicast media-stream transmission.

50. (Currently Amended) A processor-readable medium having processor-executable instructions that, when executed by a processor, perform a method comprising:

receiving a request for transmission of a target multicast media-stream;

transmitting a unicast acquisition media-stream over a unicast communications network, where the unicast acquisition media-stream corresponds to and is synchronized with the target multicast media-stream.

51. (Original) A medium as recited in claim 50 further comprising preparing for transmission the unicast acquisition media-stream based upon the same original content of the corresponding target multicast media-stream.

52. (Original) A medium as recited in claim 50 further comprising transmitting the requested target multicast media-stream over a multicast communications network.

53. (Original) A medium as recited in claim 50, wherein the unicast acquisition media-stream is encoded using a lower bit-rate than its corresponding target multicast media-stream.

54. (Original) A computing device comprising:

a transmitting device for transmitting one or more media-streams via both unicast and multicast communications networks;

a medium as recited in claim 50.

55. **(New)** A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission content is exactly synchronized to the content of the target multicast media-stream transmission.

56. **(New)** A method as recited in claim 34, wherein the content of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission is exactly synchronized with that of the target multicast media-stream transmission.